

The Office of the Governor **Proclamation**

Executive Department State of Idaho State Capitol Boise

WHEREAS, during an average week in Idaho, 357 babies are born; 14 babies are born to mothers who receive late or no prenatal care; 22 babies are born low birth weight (less then 5.5 pounds); 4 babies are born very low birth weight (less than 3.3 pounds); and 3 babies die before their first birthday; and

WHEREAS, the March of Dimes is a national non-profit organization whose mission is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, and infant mortality; and

WHEREAS, over its 64-year history the March of Dimes has saved millions of babies from death or disability; and

WHEREAS, the March of Dimes has been a pioneer in preventing birth defects, the nations number one child health problem, through programs of research, community services, education and advocacy; and

WHEREAS, WalkAmerica, which was initiated in 1970, has been a remarkable success for 30 years, raising more than \$1 billion for the March of Dimes lifesaving mission; and

WHEREAS, the nations hope for ensuring that future generations get the best chance for a healthy start in life depends upon the efforts and commitment of all Americans in events like Walk America;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DIRK KEMPTHORNE, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim April 27, 2002, to be

MARCH OF DIMES WALK-AMERICA DAY

in Idaho.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this seventeenth day of April in the year of our Lord two-thousand and two and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred twenty-sixth and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twelfth.

DIRK KEMPTHORNE GOVERNOR

PETE T. CENARRUSA SECRETARY OF STATE